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19 April 1963

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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Congo: Adoula's reshuffling of his government does not appear to have eased his problems with Parliament.

On 17 April, the day the new cabinet was announced, the Chamber of Deputies, with only three dissenters, voted to limit the President's authority to recess Parliament by requiring the prior agreement of both chambers. Should the same measure pass the Senate, as seems likely, the Congo's basic law governing this subject will have been amended. (Adoula and President Kasavubu had planned to recess Parliament by the end of April in order to remove the threat of hostile measures.)

(This action increases the chances that Adoula will have to release Antoine Gizenga. The premier had planned to stall until after Parliament had been sent home. Gizenga's supporters are charging that there is a US-instigated plot afoot to murder the former Stanleyville leader. They are also seeking to question the premier on alleged US assurances of military support to Adoula to block the Congolese radicals from coming to power.)

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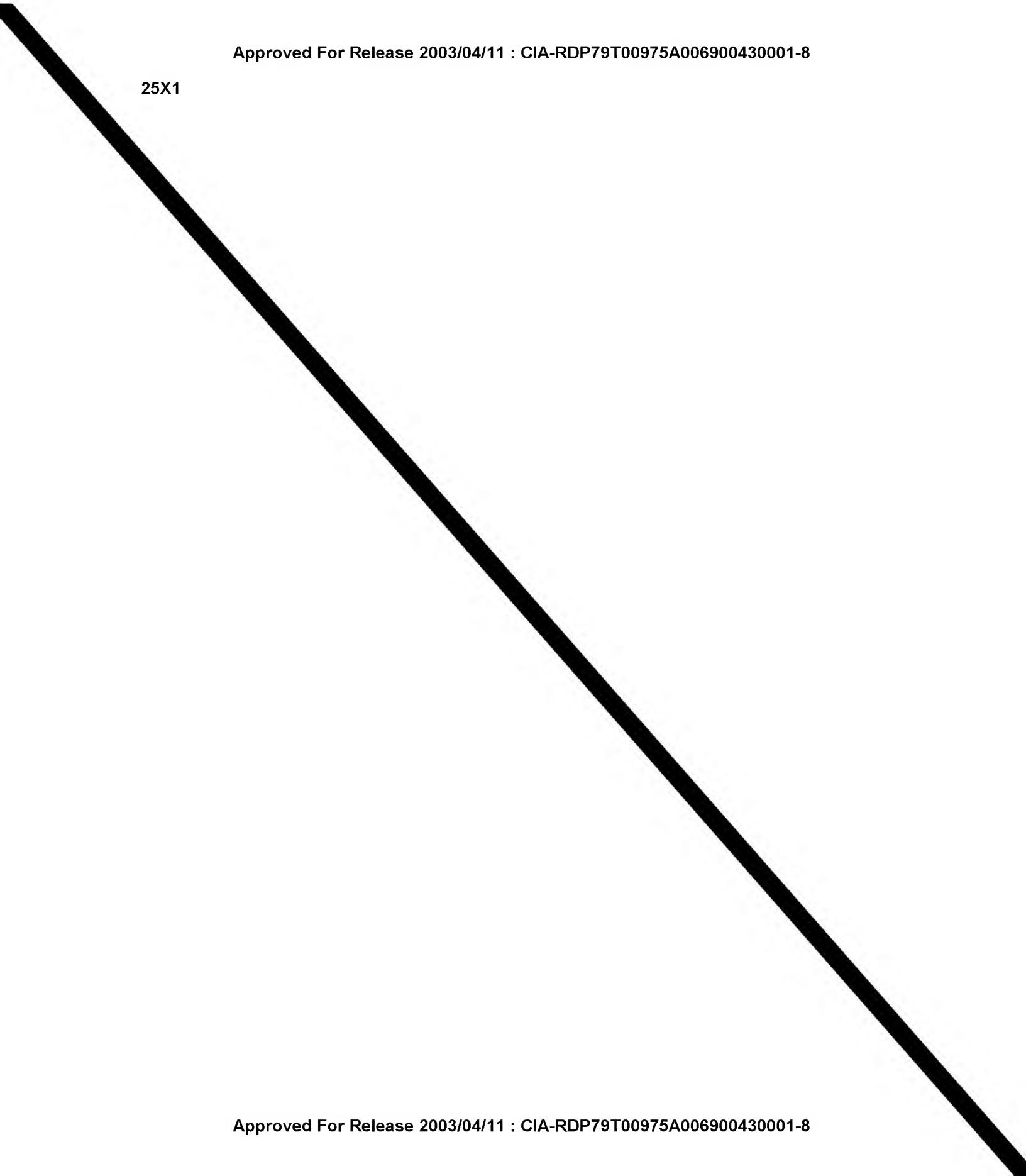
DAILY BRIEF

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Pakistan - Afghanistan: Pakistan has proposed to Afghanistan that diplomatic relations, broken for 19 months, be restored.

The Pakistanis, who made their approach through the Iranian Government, presumably intend to allow some form of consular representation in the key city of Peshawar. This would pave the way for Afghan trade to move across Pakistan again.

Negotiations are likely to be difficult, but both countries appear more conciliatory than they were before the fall of the Daud government in early March. The new Afghan government has noted the moderate tone of Pakistan's propaganda, and on 15 April it apparently began to moderate its own line on the Pushtoonistan dispute.

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Netherlands--NATO: The Dutch Government has given a sympathetic hearing to proposals for a NATO multilateral nuclear force (MLF), but it intends to defer a decision on whether to participate, at least until after the 15 May general elections.

(At a meeting on 16 April, Foreign Minister Luns told Ambassador Merchant that the government coalition parties as well as the opposition Labor Party support this tactic, in order to prevent pacifist elements from making the question an election issue.)

(While expressing satisfaction with the present NATO nuclear arrangements and their general support of any proposals which will contribute to the integration of NATO's military forces, Luns and other Dutch officials questioned whether the MLF will eliminate pressures for the development of national nuclear forces. They stressed that it is extremely important that the MLF be in fact a multilateral effort and not simply a screen for a British or German force.)

(The Dutch are also concerned that there may be a tendency to downgrade conventional forces and thus heighten the risk of nuclear war.)

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Poland: The Polish leadership is showing concern over widespread popular dissatisfaction with its consumer economic policies.

Gomulka, who rarely appears on television, devoted a two-hour telecast with top-level party officials on 17 April to an effort to stifle growing criticism. This apparently has included attacks on trade unions for failing to defend workers' interests.

The Polish leader defended recent significant price rises and failures to meet increased demands for consumer goods since 1961 as unavoidable. He accused capitalist radios of spreading hostile rumors that the standard of living was falling because of a "crisis of Polish socialism" and exports of coal to Cuba.

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Czechoslovakia: Hard-line Czech leader Novotny has finally made an important de-Stalinization gesture in response to internal party pressures.

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Novotny has engineered the resignation of his long-time associate Karol Bacilek, first secretary of the Slovak party and a member of the presidium of the Czechoslovak party. Bacilek, now 66 and an unpopular figure, was minister for National Security during the notorious Slansky purges in 1952. His ouster, which has not yet been officially announced, is likely to arouse popular hopes and demands within the party for further de-Stalinization moves.

Novotny, however, clearly does not intend to carry the de-Stalinization program much beyond possibly permitting the rehabilitation of a few unimportant victims of the Slansky trials. He probably hopes to play down the significance of Bacilek's ouster, and in this way to minimize public discussion of the roles played by himself and other top regime officials in the Slansky purge period.

The regime, [redacted] is already letting it be known within the party that there were mitigating circumstances for Bacilek's behavior during the purges.

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NOTES

Communist China - USSR: Conclusion of the 1963 Sino-Soviet trade agreement appears imminent. On 17 April, a deputy minister of Foreign Trade joined the Chinese negotiators already in Moscow to complete trade talks, which began last November. Trade in 1962 is estimated to have dropped to around \$650 million--about one third of the peak level reached in 1959.

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Bulgaria: Bulgarian party chief Zhivkov reportedly scored the deplorable state of the Bulgarian economy at a closed session of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences on 16 February. He stated that Bulgaria had the worst economic situation in the Communist bloc, in part because 90 percent of its workers are lazy and incompetent and because shoddy Bulgarian goods are hard to sell, even in bloc markets. This exaggeration of some negative features of the Bulgarian economy probably presages changes in personnel or in the current economic program.

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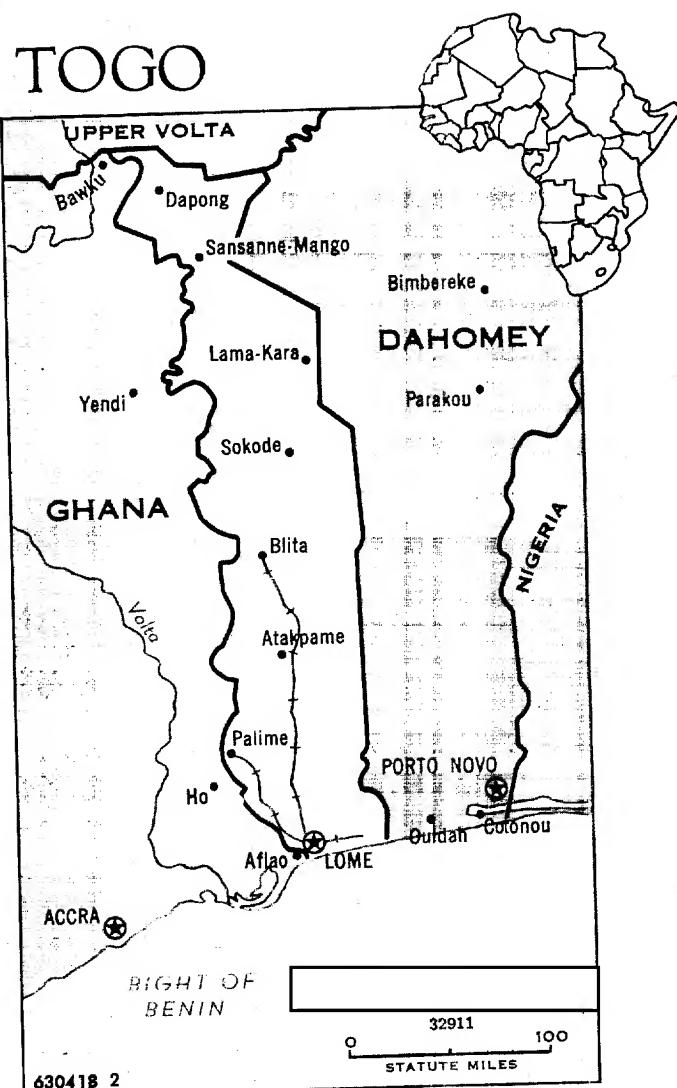
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Haiti: President Duvalier reportedly holds the US Embassy responsible for inspiring last week's abortive military plot against his regime. He is said to have expressed an intention to expel Ambassador Thurston, the US military attachés, and the naval mission. Perhaps a harbinger of such action is a government communiqué issued on 16 April which announced the discovery of plotting by several Haitian army officers. The communiqué asserted that this subversive activity had been planned with "the complicity of certain foreigners residing in the national territory."

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South Korea: Students are using the anniversary of their April 1960 uprising against the Rhee regime to express dissatisfaction over current conditions in South Korea. On 18 April, a student federation described military rule as "an act of treachery against democracy." A large university group adopted a manifesto which called for the end of military rule and condemned all former civilian leaders "who even slightly impaired Korean democracy." The manifesto also attacked "foreign interference" in Korean domestic affairs--specifically interference "that is backed up with strong economic and military resources as well as imperialism or colonialism."

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Togo: Elections now seem likely to take place as scheduled on 5 May, with provisional president Grunitsky as the only candidate for president. After a period of intensive maneuvering, elements of assassinated President Olympio's party and Togo's three other parties joined in filing a single electoral list just prior to the deadline on 16 April. Finance Minister Meatchi, backed at first by the leader of the January military coup, made a strong bid for the top spot before finally accepting the vice presidency.

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